improvements to existing national highways and special assistance under State Plan for improvement of state roads. The details of reconstruction plan in as under:—

S. No.	Name of Road	Estimated Amount (Rs. in crores)
1	Upgradation of Srinagar-Uri Section of NH-1A	121.00
2.	Double laning of NH-1B (Batote-Kishtwar-Sinthanpass Khanabal)	100.00
3	Double laning of NH-1C (Domel-Katra road)	30.00
4.	Construction of Mughal Road (State & Centre to share cost equally)	159.00
5.	Construction of Khanabe-Khalgani Road	25.00
6.	Construction of Narbal-Targmarg Road	38.00

Steps to reduce road accidents

4626. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Health Organisation (WHO) has predicted that road accidents would be the third largest killer worldwide by 2020 and that most of the deaths would be in developing countries like India;

(b) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to speed and visibility, and

(c) the steps being taken to reduce incidence of road accidents in coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention of WHO, has *inter-alia*, projected that on current trends, by 2020, road crash injury is likely to be the third leading cause of disease/injury. The report also mentions that between 2000 and 2020, South Asia would record the largest growth in road traffic death.

(b) While analyzing the Risk factors influencing crash involvement, the Report has *inter-alia* highlighted factors influencing the crash such as speed and visibility. The crash risk increases as speed increases. The report states that in highly motorized countries, inadequate visibility plays a key role in crashes involving vehicles, while in low and middle income countries, the two wheelers, pedestrians and cyclists are at a high risk on this account.

(c) Some of the important steps taken by the Government besides highway design to check the road accidents on National Highways are as under:

(i) Grants-in-aid to voluntary organizations for administering road safety programmes.
(ii) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness throughly audio-visual-print media.
(iii) Encouraging use of simulators in driver's training.
(iv) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.
(v) Organizing All India Essay Competition on road safety for school children with a view to create awareness.
(vi) Tightening of fitness norms for transport vehicle.
(vii) Widening and improvements of National Highways.
(viii) Introduction of safety features in Motor Vehicles, etc.

Loss due to poor roads

4627. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to inadequate capacity and poor quality of highways the country losses about Rs. 10,000 crore a year;

(b) whether it is a also a fact that average productivity of trucks is 250-300 kilometres per day in India whereas it is 600-800 kilometres per day globally;

(c) whether it is further a fact that 50 per cent of our National Highways are in poor condition and 30 per cent highways are single-line; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to construct National Highways of international standards?